



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Required Report - public distribution

**Date:** 9/9/2005

**GAIN Report Number:** LO5010

## Slovakia

### Fresh Deciduous Fruit

### Annual

### 2005

**Approved by:**

Sarah Hanson  
U.S. Embassy

**Prepared by:**

Dr. Roswitha Krautgartner

---

**Report Highlights:**

Due to cold and rainy weather during flowering and a wet summer, Slovakia's commercial apple crop is expected to amount to 29,093 MT in 2005. This represents a 6.5% decrease (31,062 MT) compared to 2004. Total apple production (including non-commercial production) will reach 39,093 MT. Due to a growing health awareness, fruit and fruit product consumption is on the rise. Slovakia is a net importer of fresh fruit and processed fruit.

---

Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Vienna [AU1]  
[LO]

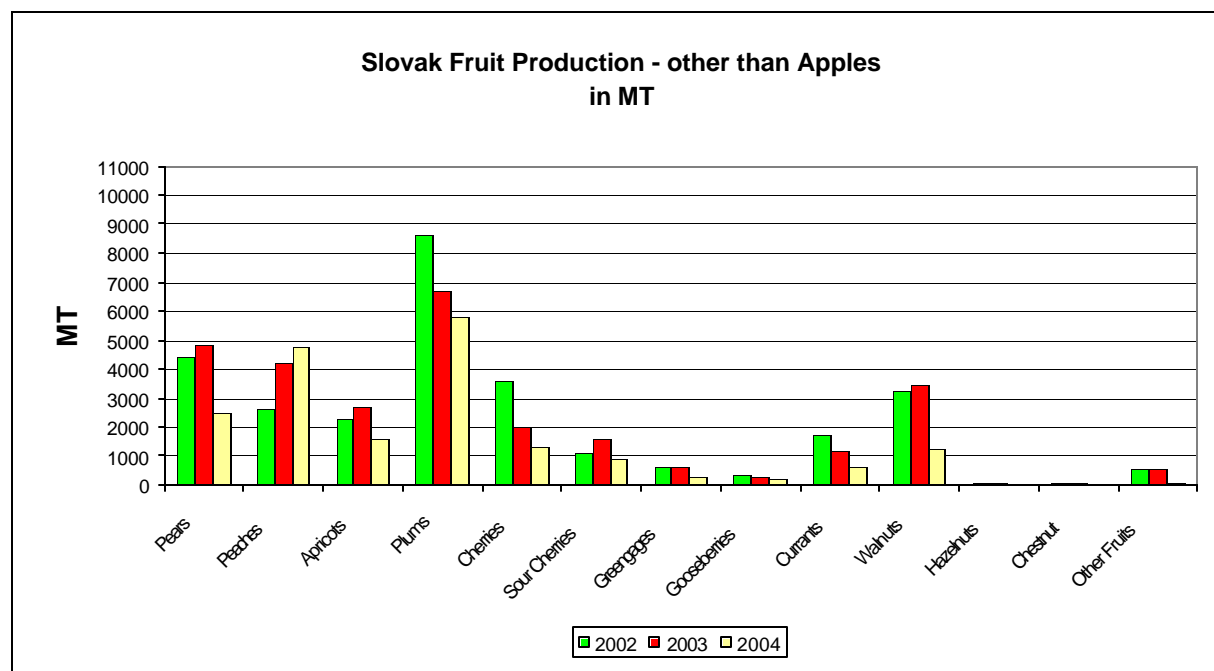
## Fruit and Apple Production

Slovakia's commercial apple crop in 2005 is expected to amount to 29,093 MT. This is 6.5% less (31,062 MT) than the 2004 crop. Due to cold and rainy weather during flowering time and wet conditions in summer, total apple production (including non-commercial production) is expected to reach 39,093 MT.

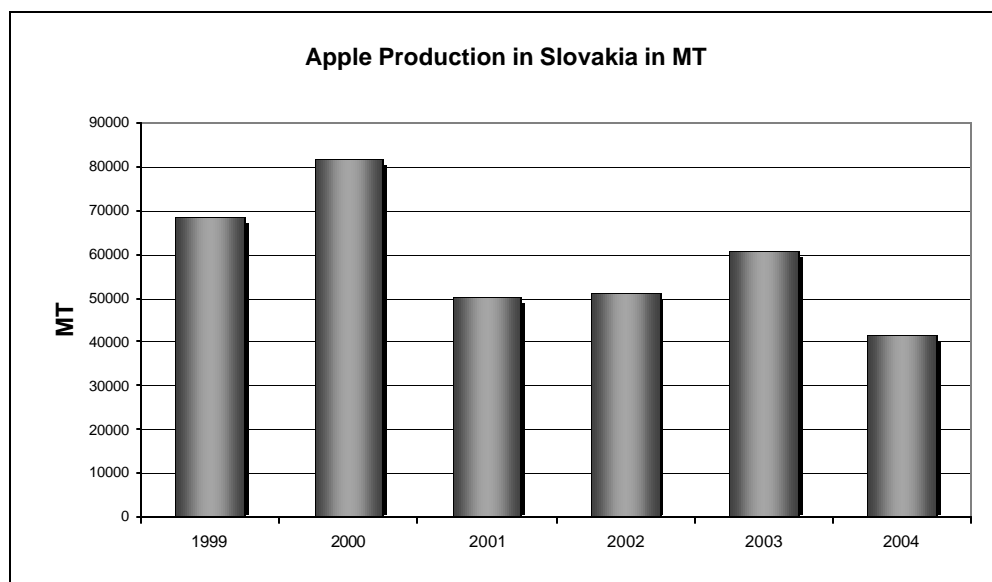
In 2004, total Slovak fruit production amounted to 60,955 MT. This represented a decrease of 27,980 MT, or 31.46 percent, compared to the previous year. The major share of this decrease took place in the non-commercial production. A little over 68 percent (41,595 MT) of total Slovak fruit production comes from apples. In 2004, apple production declined by 19,090 MT (or 31.5 percent) in comparison to 2003. After apples, plum production is the second largest fruit production followed by pears and peaches. Plum and pear production was down in 2004 as well. From 1998 to 2000, apple production was at the highest level. (Please see: Figure 2 and Figure 1).

Also the number of fruit trees declined in 2004 by 302,464 (- 1.8 percent) and the total number of trees reached 16.8 million.

In 2004, intensive fruit orchard acreage amounted to 6,056 hectares, which corresponds to 616 hectares (-9.2 percent) less than the previous year. In 2004, total yields harvested from intensive orchards reached 38,394 MT, which is 37% (in 2003: 46.2 percent) of the total production.



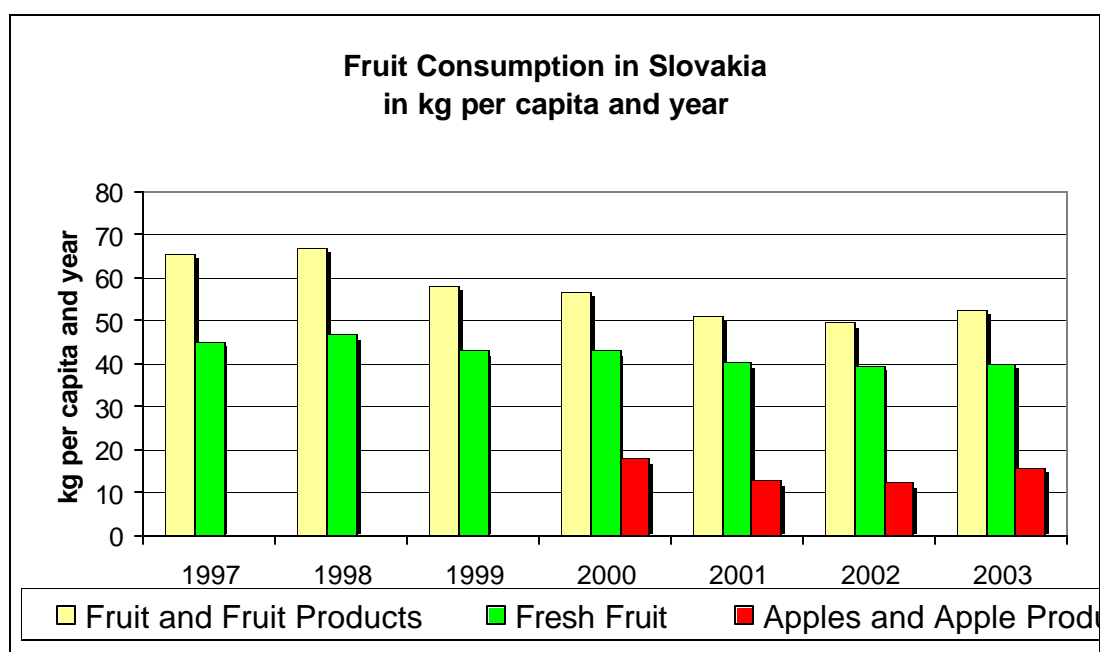
**Figure 1:** Slovak fruit production other than apples, 2002 to 2004



**Figure 2:** Apple production in Slovakia from 1999 to 2004

### Fruit Consumption

The downward trend for fruit and fruit products consumption that occurred from 1998 to 2002 stopped in 2003. Consumption of fruit and fruit products increased by 2.9 kg (+5.8 percent) to 52.6 kg per capita in 2003 compared to 2002. In 2003, Slovaks also consumed more fresh fruit (+0.6 kg or +1.5 percent), as well as apples and apple products (+3.5 kg or +28.2 percent) than in the previous year (Figure 3). This increase in apple consumption is mainly due to higher consumption of processed apples. Total domestic consumption of fruits declined steadily from 1999 to 2002. Due to growing health awareness, increased fruit consumption is expected for the next years.



**Figure 3:** Fruit consumption in Slovakia, 1997 to 2002

## Trade and Prices

Slovakia is a net importer of fresh fruit and processed fruit. In 2004, fresh fruit imports, including citrus fruits, amounted to 177,581 MT (+ 2.6 percent increase compared to 2003), whereas exports amounted to 47,8975 MT (+ 165.1 percent increase compared to 2003). This resulted in a negative trade balance of SKK -1,842 million (\$ 57.2 million). Slovakia's major suppliers of fresh fruits include Poland, Italy, and Spain. Slovakia's major export markets include the Czech Republic and Germany. In 2004, the Slovak Republic imported 41,159 MT of processed fruits and exported 11,120 MT. This resulted in a negative trade balance of SKK -859 million (\$ 26.7 million).

Average producer prices for apples in 2004 accounted for SKK 11,363 (\$ 347.2) per MT. This is 3.3 % less than the previous year.

PSD Table				
Country	Slovakia			
Commodity	Apples, Fresh		(HA)(1000 TREES)(MT)	
	Revised	Estimate	Forecast	UOM
USDA Off	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	New
Market Year Begin	07/2003	07/2004	07/2005	MM/YYYY
Area Planted	5900	5077	5000	(HA)
Area Harvested	3519	3281	3200	(HA)
Bearing Trees	7740	7534	7550	(1000 TREES)
Non-Bearing Trees	500	500	500	(1000 TREES)
Total Trees	8240	8034	8050	(1000 TREES)
Commercial Production	34070	31062	29093	(MT)
Non-Comm. Production	26615	10532	10000	(MT)
TOTAL Production	60685	41594	39093	(MT)
TOTAL Imports	32967	29903	30000	(MT)
TOTAL SUPPLY	93652	71497	69093	(MT)
Domestic Fresh Consum	48500	48500	48500	(MT)
Exports, Fresh Only	6165	5361	5000	(MT)
For Processing	38987	17636	15593	(MT)
Withdrawal From Market	0	0	0	(MT)
TOTAL UTILIZATION	93652	71497	69093	(MT)

Prices Table			
Country	Slovakia		
Commodity	Apples, Fresh		
Prices in	SKK	per uom	MT
Year	2003	2004	% Change
Jan	12833	12560	-2%
Feb	11720	11940	2%
Mar	11440	12520	9%
Apr	11000	10500	-5%
May	12000	11140	-7%
Jun			
Jul	11667	11500	-1%
Aug	10593	11255	6%
Sep	11170	11500	3%
Oct	12123	11419	-6%
Nov	11500	9671	-16%
Dec	13250	10988	-17%
Exchange Rate	32.73	Local Currency/US \$	
Date of Quote	12/31/2005	MM/DD/YYYY	

Average exchange rate in 2004:  
US\$ 1 = SKK 32.21